

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 00932 290229Z

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10  
ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00  
NASA-01 NSC-05 ERDA-05 OES-06 H-01 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /121 W  
-----290707Z 017117 /10

R 290125Z MAR 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2963

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, UN, AORG

SUBJECT: OUTER SPACE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE: REMOTE SENSING  
MARCH 25, 1977

1. IN GENERAL DEBATE A.M. MARCH 26, BULGARIA AND POLAND MADE BRIEF STATEMENTS IN SUPPORT OF MONGOLIAN PROPOSAL CONCERNING APPLICATION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY OVER WEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES IN THE FIELD OF REMOTE SENSING.

2. WORKING GROUP III (REMOTE SENSING) THEN RESUMED YESTERDAY'S DISCUSSION WHETHER A BASIS EXISTED FOR FORMULATION OF A COMMON ELEMENT ENCOMPASSING THE PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY PRINCIPLE. ALONG WITH THE UK, FRG, ITALY AND JAPAN, THE USDEL FORCEFULLY REITERATED THAT NO SUCH BASIS OR AGREEMENT DID EXIST, EMPHASIZING THAT (A) THE U.S. COULD NOT ACCEPT ANY PROPOSITION EXTENDING THE CONCEPT OF PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY TO INFORMATION ABOUT NATURAL RESOURCES, AND (B) SINCE THE SOLE PURPOSE OF REMOTE SENSING IS TO ACQUIRE INFORMATION, THE PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY PRINCIPLE HAS NO RELEVANCE IN THIS CONTEXT. THE USSR STRENUOUSLY ATTEMPTED TO HAVE THE UNAGREED TEXT WHICH HAD BEEN CIRCULATED BY THE CHAIRMAN (DOC.WP.4/REV1) INSERTED IN BRACKETS AS  
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PAGE 02 USUN N 00932 290229Z

DRAFT PRINCIPLE X, BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS. HOW THIS LENGTHY DISCUSSION WILL ULTIMATELY BE REFLECTED IN THE LSC REPORT WILL BE RESOLVED BY THE DRAFTING GROUP DURING THE LAST WEEK.

3. IN THE AFTERNOON SESSION, WG-III CONSIDERED THE ARGENTINIAN PROPOSAL ON STATE RESPONSIBILITY SET FORTH

IN PARA 4, WP.2. THE US REP SUGGESTED A REVISION OF THAT  
PROPOSAL TO READ: QUOTE STATES BEGIN BRACKETS SHALL/SHOULD END  
BRACKETS BEAR INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTIVITIES OF  
REMOTE SENSING OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE  
EARTH AND ITS ENVIRONMENT WHERE SUCH ACTIVITIES ARE  
CARRIED OUT BY GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES AND BEGIN BRACKETS SHALL/  
SHOULD END BRACKETS COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THESE  
PRINCIPLES. END QUOTE.

4. AFTEER SOME DISCUSSION, IT WAS AGREED THAT THE BASIS  
OF A COMMON ELEMENT ON THIS SUBJECT EXISTED, AND  
FOLLOWING SECRETARIAT CIRCULATION OF A VERSION COMBINING  
THE TWO PROPOSALS (WP.5), THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED  
BY THE WG AS A DRAFT PRINCIPLE: QUOTE STATES BEGIN BRACKETS SHALL/  
SHOULD END BRACKETS BEAR INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR  
BEGIN BRACKETS NATIONAL END BRACKETS ACTIVITIES OF REMOTE  
SENSING BEGIN BRACKETS OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE  
EARTH END BRACKETS BEGIN BRACKETS AND ITS ENVIRONMENT END  
BRACKETS BEGIN BRACKETS IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER END  
BRACKETS BEGIN BRACKETS WHERE END BRACKETS SUCH ACTIVITIES  
ARE CARRIED OUT BY GOVERNMENTAL BEGIN BRACKETS OR NON-  
GOVERNMENTAL END BRACKETS ENTITIES, AND BEGIN BRACKETS SHALL/SHOULD

END BRACKETS BEGIN BRACKETS GUARANTEE THAT SUCH  
ACITVITIES WILL END BRACKETS COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF  
THESE PRINCIPLES. END QUOTE.

5. THE WG THE TURNED TO A DISCUSSION OF THE SUBJECT  
LISTED IN PARA. 9 ANNEX III OF THE 1976 LSC REPORT,  
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PAGE 03 USUN N 00932 290229Z

IN AN EFFORT TO IDENTIFY FURTHER COMMON ELEMENTS. IT  
WAS DETERMINED THAT NO AGREEMENT WAS POSSIBLE WITH RES-  
PECT TO THE ISSUE OF REAUIRING PRIOR CONSENT TO THE  
CONDUCT OF REMOTE SENSING ACTIVITIES. THE MEETING  
ENDED WITH AN INCONCLUSIVE DEBATE ON THE RELATED ISSUES  
OF ACCESS TO AND DISSEMINATION OF REMOTE SENSING DATA  
AND INFORMATION, AND THE AVILABILITY OF SUCH DATA ON A  
BASIS OF CONTINUITY AND PRIORITY. EVENING MEETINGS  
OF THE WG ARE PLANNED FOR NEXT WEEK.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REMOTE SENSING, SOVEREIGNTY, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, RESOLUTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977USUNN00932  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770106-1096  
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**From:** USUN NEW YORK  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** TSPA, AORG, UN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009